



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**  
**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application**

**Inventor(s):** James F. Zucherman, Ken Y. Hsu, Charles J. Winslow, John Flynn

**Appln. No.:** 09/978,386

**Confirm. No.:** 4255

**Filed:** October 16, 2001

**Title:** CURVED DILATOR AND METHOD

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**Art Unit:** 3731

**Examiner:** Vy Q. Bui

**Customer No. 23910**

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

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Signature Date: December 24, 2003

(Attorney Signature)

**RESPONSE B UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

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This RESPONSE B is in reply to the Office Action mailed August 27, 2003.

**Amendments**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

12/30/2003 SDENB081 00000090 061325 09978386  
02 FC:2251 55.00 DA